

U.S. Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DEACONESS COMP CENTER EMPLOYEE CHARGED WITH WRONGFULLY DISCLOSING INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIABLE HEALTH INFORMATION

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JAMIA K. LEWIS, 38, of Spottsville, Kentucky, was charged today with wrongful disclosure of individually identifiable health information, following an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The charging document alleges that between November 29 and December 30, 2005, during the course of her employment with Deaconess COMP Center, LEWIS gave a list of names of individuals that were provided health care services by her to a person who was supplying her with methamphetamine. The charging document also alleges that Deaconess COMP Center is a

health care provider that is subject to the privacy regulations established by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who is prosecuting the case for the government, LEWIS faces a maximum possible prison sentence of 10 years and a maximum possible fine of \$250,000. An initial hearing will be held before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville on August 2, 2006, at 10:30 a.m.

The Information is an allegation only, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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